

What is claimed is:

1. An audio reproduction apparatus, comprising:  
a plurality of audio amplifiers, each being responsive to a corresponding  
audio signal for generating audio power in a corresponding audio speaker; and  
means for selectively applying a supply voltage to a first audio amplifier of  
said audio amplifiers at a lower magnitude, in a first mode of operation, when  
audio power generated in a second audio amplifier of said audio amplifiers is  
higher, and at a higher magnitude, in a second mode of operation, when the  
audio power generated in said second audio amplifier is lower, in a manner to  
reduce a change in a total audio power generated, when a change in the mode of  
operation occurs.

2. The audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further  
comprising means for selectively enabling audio power generation in said second  
audio amplifier, in said first mode of operation, and for disabling the audio power  
generation in said second audio amplifier, in said second mode of operation.

3. The audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the  
generation of the audio power in said second audio amplifier is enabled in a  
surround sound mode of operation and disabled in at least one of a monaural  
mode of operation and a stereo mode of operation.

4. The audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the  
generation of the audio power in said first audio amplifier is enabled both in said  
surround sound mode of operation and in said at least one of said monaural and  
stereo modes of operation.

5. The audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said  
supply voltage applying means comprises a switch for selectively coupling a  
source of a first supply voltage to a power supply input of said first audio  
amplifier, in said first mode of operation, and a source of a second supply  
voltage, in said second mode of operation.

6. The audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein both said first and second audio amplifiers are energized from a common power supply having a power rating that is determined by the total audio power produced in each of said first and second audio amplifiers.

7. A method for reproducing audio, comprising:  
providing a plurality of audio amplifiers, each being responsive to a corresponding audio signal for generating audio power in a corresponding audio speaker; and

selectively applying a supply voltage to a first audio amplifier of said audio amplifiers at a lower magnitude, in a first mode of operation, when audio power generated in a second audio amplifier of said audio amplifiers is higher, and at a higher magnitude, in a second mode of operation, when the audio power generated in said second audio amplifier is lower, in a manner to reduce a change in a total audio power generated, when a change in the mode of operation occurs.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of selectively enabling audio power generation in said second audio amplifier, in said first mode of operation, and disabling the audio power generation in said second audio amplifier, in said second mode of operation.

9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of enabling the generation of the audio power in said second audio amplifier in a surround sound mode of operation and disabling the generation of the audio power in said second audio amplifier in at least one of a monaural mode of operation and a stereo mode of operation.